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(56) Documents Cited

GB 2290213 A

US 6073582 A

US 6047661 A

US 5829383 A

US 5826839 A

US 5803426 A

US 5291855 A

US 4829934 A

US 4765277 A

(58) Field of Search

UK CL (Edition S ) A1M MEA

INT CL<sup>7</sup> A01K 39/00 39/01 39/012

Online; WPI, EPODOC, JAPIO

(54) Abstract Title

**Bird table**

(57) The bird table comprises a ground engaging member and a generally vertically extending support 10. The support carries a platform 30 above which there is positioned a foodstuff dispensing means 50 for birds. The support may be telescopic and the table may have a top cover 70. A diffuser cone 21 may urge the foodstuff 51 against a mesh tube.

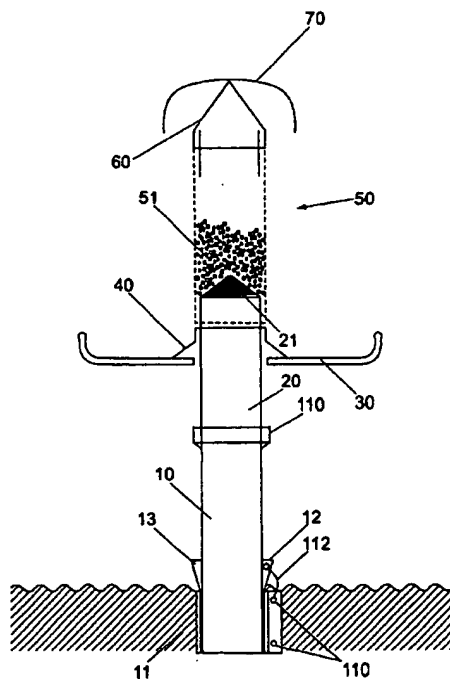


Fig. 1

At least one drawing originally filed was informal and the print reproduced here is taken from a later filed formal copy.

This print takes account of replacement documents submitted after the date of filing to enable the application to comply with the formal requirements of the Patents Rules 1995

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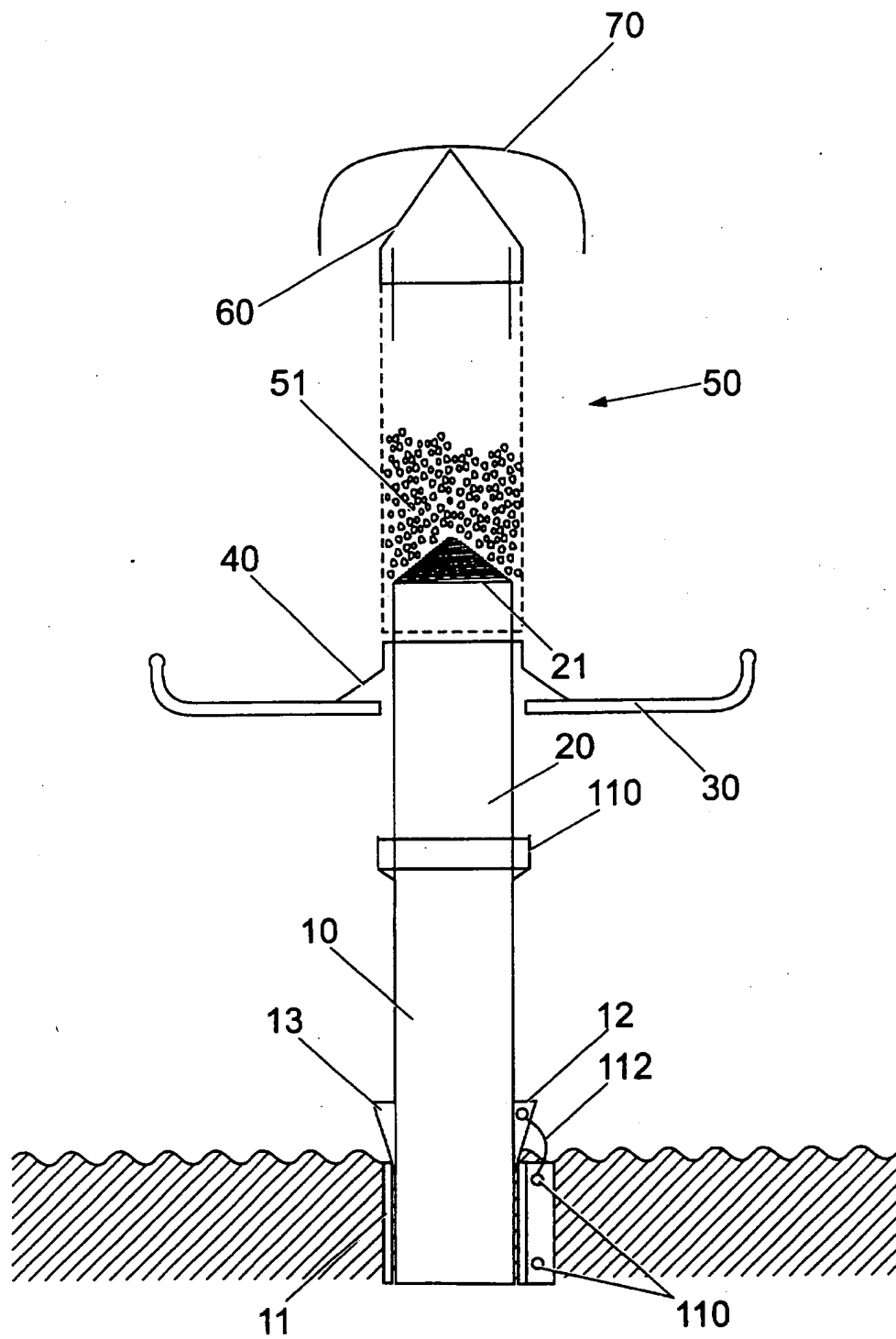


Fig. 1

1     "Bird Table"

2

3     This invention relates to a bird table, and more  
4     particularly, to a bird table of novel construction  
5     which facilitates manufacture, storage and assembly  
6     of the bird table.

7

8     Hitherto, bird tables were formed of wood requiring  
9     carpentry skills in the manufacture and assembly.  
10    Alternatively, bird tables were formed as assembled  
11    units making storage and transport difficult.

12

13    It is an object of the present invention to provide  
14    a bird table in component form which can be easily  
15    manufactured, stored, transported and assembled.

16

17    According to the present invention there is provided  
18    a bird table comprising a ground engaging member, a  
19    generally vertically extending support, platform  
20    means carried by the support, and foodstuff  
21    dispensing means located above the platform.

22

1     Embodiments of the present invention will now be  
2     described, with reference to the accompany drawings,  
3     in which:-

4

5             Fig. 1 is an elevational view of one embodiment  
6             of a bird table made in accordance with the  
7             present invention.

8

9     Referring to the drawings, a bird table made in  
10     accordance with the present invention comprises a  
11     generally tubular lower support 10, formed of a  
12     plastics cylindrical member and adapted to fit  
13     within a ground socket 11 permanently fixed in the  
14     ground by means of fixing elements 110.

15

16     In use, the support 10 is held in the ground socket  
17     11 by means of a fixing wedge 12 fixed to the socket  
18     11 by a wire 112. If necessary, a further wedge 13  
19     may be provided.

20

21     The lower support 10 carries an upper support 20,  
22     the upper support 20 being an interference fit  
23     within a widened portion 110 of the lower support  
24     10.

25

26     At the uppermost end of the upper support 20 there  
27     is mounted a tray 30 which acts as a platform for  
28     birds.

29

30     The tray 30 is affixed to the upper support 20  
31     through a generally frusto-conical fixing unit 40,

1     which is positioned at the upper end of the upper  
2     support 20.

3

4     The tray 30 is weld-glued to the fixing unit 40  
5     which is thus held in the position illustrated.

6

7     A food distribution unit 50 is mounted on the top of  
8     the upper support 20. The food distribution unit 50  
9     comprises a tubular stainless steel mesh tube and  
10    serves to retain foodstuffs 51, such as nuts or the  
11    like.

12

13    The nuts 51 are urged outwards against the inner  
14    surface of the mesh by a diffuser cone 21 fitted to  
15    the top of the upper support 20.

16

17    In use, birds can access the foodstuffs through the  
18    apertures in the mesh. The mesh, being formed of  
19    stainless steel is resistant to corrosive attack or  
20    attack by other animals, such as squirrels.

21

22    On top of the food distribution unit 50 there is  
23    provided a top cover 60 which carries a general  
24    hemispherical cowl 70. The cowl 70 serves to  
25    prevent the ingress of rainwater into the food  
26    distribution unit 50, diverting any rainwater onto  
27    the tray 30.

28

29    Thus, there has been provided a novel construction  
30    of bird table which is efficient in its use, easily  
31    manufactured, stored, transported and assembled.

1     The design also permits dis-assembly of the unit for  
2     periods of non-use.

3

4     Modifications and improvements may be incorporated  
5     without departing from the scope of the invention.

1     CLAIMS

2

3     1     A bird table comprising a ground engaging  
4     member, a generally vertically extending support,  
5     platform means carried by the support, and foodstuff  
6     dispensing means located above the platform.

7

8     2     A bird table as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the  
9     ground engaging member is retained in a ground  
10    socket by means of fixing wedges.

11

12    3     A bird table as claimed in either preceding  
13    claim wherein the vertically extending support is  
14    tubular and is formed of two portions which  
15    telescopically fit one within the other.

16

17    4     A bird table as claimed in Claim 3 wherein the  
18    telescopic fit is an interference fit.

19

20    5     A bird table as claimed in any preceding claim  
21    wherein the platform is in the form of a circular  
22    table having a central aperture through which the  
23    support can pass, the tray being fixed to the  
24    support by a fixing unit.

25

26    6     A bird table as claimed in Claim 5 wherein the  
27    fixing unit is frusto-conical.

28

29    7     A bird table as claimed in any preceding claim  
30    wherein the foodstuff dispensing means is in the  
31    form of a food distribution unit comprising a mesh  
32    tube through which foodstuffs may be accessed.

1

2     8     A bird table as claimed in Claim 7 wherein the  
3     foodstuff is urged against the mesh tube by means of  
4     a diffuser cone.

5

6     9     A bird table as claimed in any preceding claim,  
7     and including a top cover arrangement to prevent  
8     ingress of rainwater into the foodstuff dispensing  
9     means.

10

11    10    A bird table as hereinbefore described with  
12    reference to the accompanying drawings.





INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Application No: GB 0112081.5  
 Claims searched: 1-10

Examiner: Paul Jenkins  
 Date of search: 21 September 2001

# **Patents Act 1977** **Search Report under Section 17**

## **Databases searched:**

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK CI (Ed.S): A1M (MEA)

Int CI (Ed.7): A01K 39/00, 39/01, 39/012

Other: Online: WPI, EPODOC, JAPIO

## **Documents considered to be relevant:**

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage		Relevant to claims
X	GB 2290213 A	(ALLEN) Whole document relevant	1-2 & 7
A,P	US 6073582	(LUSH) See fig 5 and column 3 lines 24-27	-----
Y	US 6047661	(LUSH) See base plate 7 in figures 3 & 4	8
X,Y	US 5829383	(BLANDING) Whole document relevant see especially figure 1 and column 4 lines 58-61	X: 1-2, 5-6 & 9 Y: 8
X,Y	US 5826539	(BLOEDORN) Whole document relevant see especially figures 5, 9 & 10 and column 3 lines 17-18	X: 1-2, 5, 7 & 9 Y: 8
A	US 5803426	(HART) Figs 7 & 8	2
X	US 5291855	(LAVERTY) Whole document relevant especially figure 2 and column 2 lines 3-6	1-6 & 9
X	US 4829934	(BLASBALG) Whole document relevant see especially the figures	1-2 & 5
X	US 4765277	(BAILEY) Whole document relevant see especially figure 1	1-4

X Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step  
 Y Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.

& Member of the same patent family

A Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art  
 P Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.

E Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.



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Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.